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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for reducing the number of HIV-infected cells of a host, comprising:

exposing the HIV-infected cells or cells susceptible to HIV infection to a V region selective element (VRSE) which binds to a T cell receptor (TCR) of a V region defined family (VRDF) associated with HIV infection, wherein the VRSE inhibits said infected or infection-susceptible host cell viability.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the VRSE is an antibody or binding fragment thereof.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody or binding fragment thereof.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the VRSE is fused to a toxin to form a toxin-VRSE conjugate.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the host cells are exposed to the VRSE outside of the host.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the host cells are contacted with the VRSE-toxin in the host.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

expanding a population of T cells of said host which are not susceptible to HIV infection by contacting uninfected T cells of the host with a different VRSE that is not complementary to TCR of the VRDF associated with HIV infection and which is complementary to the TCRs of said population of T cells not susceptible to HIV infection.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the different VRSE not complementary to the TCR of the VRDF which is associated with HIV infection is an antibody or binding fragment thereof.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the uninfected host cells are contacted outside of the host with the different VRSE not complementary to TCRs of the VRDF family which are associated with HIV infection.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein the uninfected host cells are contacted in the host with the different VRSE not complementary to TCRs of the VRDF family which are associated with HIV infection.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of exposing the HIV-infected cells or cells susceptible to HIV infection with the VRSE is repeated over intervals sufficient to provide an ongoing depletion of HIV-infected cells in the host.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising maintaining or expanding a population of T cells of said host which are not susceptible to HIV infection by repeatedly contacting T cells of the host with a different VRSE that is not complementary to TCR of the VRDF associated with HIV infection and which is complementary to the TCRs of said population of T cells not susceptible to HIV infection.

13. A composition which comprises a VRSE-toxin for reducing the number of HIV infected or HIV infection susceptible cells of a mammalian host, wherein the VRSE binds to a TCR of a VRDF associated with HIV infection, wherein the VRSE-toxin inhibits the viability of an HIV infected or infection susceptible mammalian host cell.

14. The composition of claim 13, wherein the VRSE which binds to the TCR of a VRDF associated with HIV infection is a monoclonal antibody or binding fragment thereof.

15. The composition of claim 13, wherein the VRSE which binds to the TCR of a VRDF associated with HIV infection comprises an HIV polypeptide selected from gp41, gp120, p24 or nef or a TCR binding fragment of said polypeptide.

16. The composition of claim 13, wherein the toxin which inhibits the viability of the HIV infected mammalian host cell is an inhibitor of mammalian protein synthesis.

17. The composition of claim 13, wherein the VRSE-toxin is a fusion protein.

18. The composition of claim 13, wherein the VRSE and toxin are chemically linked.

19. A method for deleting HIV susceptible T cells in a host, comprising:

administering to the host a composition which comprises a TCR or antibody or binding fragment thereof which specifically recognizes HIV in an amount and formulation sufficient to induce an immune response which specifically inhibits the viability of said HIV susceptible cells.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein gp120 of HIV is specifically recognized by said TCR or antibody.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the V3 loop of gp120 of HIV is specifically recognized by said TCR or antibody.

22. A method for diagnosing in a subject a disease or condition, or a predisposition for contracting a disease or condition, comprising detecting serologically in the subject antibodies associated with the disease or condition and that are substantially absent in healthy persons.

23. A method for treating a disease or condition in which the lymphocyte repertoire is abnormal, which method comprises administering a substance that reacts with antibodies that are associated with the disease or condition and that are substantially absent in healthy persons.

24. The method of claim 23, in which the substance used for treatment is an antibody, an antibody coupled to a toxin, or an antibody binding fragment coupled to a toxin.

25. The method of claim 23, in which the disease or condition is an autoimmune disease, cancer, or allergy.

26. A method for preventing a disease or condition in an individual in which the lymphocyte repertoire is abnormal, comprising immunizing the individual with a substance that induces an immune response against antibodies present in individuals with the disease and substantially absent in healthy people.

27. The method of claim 26, in which the substance used is an antibody, an antibody binding fragment, or an agent with a shape sufficiently similar to said antibodies that they induce an immune response that reacts with said antibodies.

28. The method of claim 26, in which the disease is an autoimmune disease, cancer, allergy or immunity to a graft.